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Washington, D.C.

# WEEKLY BULLETIN



THE AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

192 NOV -2 PM 3:00

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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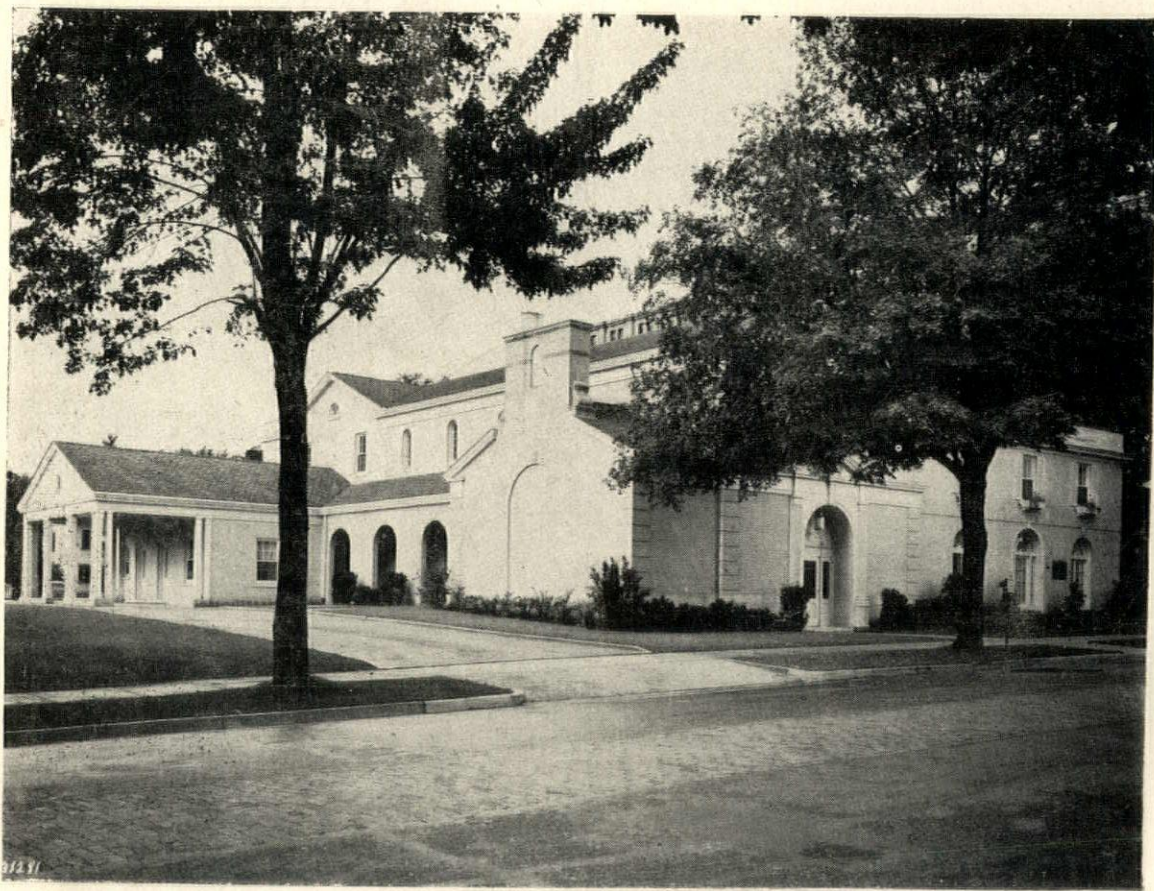
Advertising Manager  
E. B. FAUQUIER

Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly.  
Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Volume 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, NOVEMBER 3, 1942

No. 44



FUNERAL CHAPEL, ESTES-LEADLEY COMPANY, LANSING, MICHIGAN

C. William Palmer, Architect

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## Architect's Division War Chest Campaign

The appeal of last week for workers on the War Chest campaign brought good results. The following have volunteered: Clair W. Ditchy, Eberle M. Smith, Frank Cox, Louis Redstone, Richard H. Marr, Paul Sewell, Mrs. Wright (Secretary to Mr. Albert Kahn), Chester L. Baumann, Joseph W. Leinweber, Andrew R. Morison, Eugene Mitton.

Charles N. Agree and Talmage C. Hughes are co-chairmen of the Architects' section of the professional division. Each year the campaign has been better organized, so that at present it is about as simple as possible. Solicitation is made only by professions or businesses and thus duplication is avoided. There is no reason why one should be solicited through more than one source. If it's an architect's office it belongs to our division, including all employees and the firm itself. In order that our profession may make a creditable showing your cooperation in this respect will be appreciated.

As an example, the list furnished us, from last year, numbered only about 375. There are that many registered architects in the Detroit area, and if there should be, on the average, only one draftsman to each architect, the list would be twice that number. On the first day of the campaign there were distributed in three offices, in one building over one thousand blanks—and that did not include the Albert Kahn office. Let's all do our part to "Give For Home and Country."



Agree

## Grand Rapids Chapter Meeting

A meeting of Grand Rapids Chapter, A.I.A., was held at the Peninsular Club, Grand Rapids, Friday evening, with an attendance of eight members, which should be considered good, considering the number of Chapter members in the Army, Navy, and other Government Services.

Action was taken to support the officers of the Institute in the matter of keeping the Institute's representative, Mr. D. K. Este Fisher, Jr. in Washington, it being the consensus of opinion that Mr. Fisher is doing a valuable work for the members of the Institute.

Owing to the fact that members of Grand Rapids Chapter include architects in Lansing, Jackson, Battle Creek, Kalamazoo, Muskegon, St. Johns, and Traverse City, as well as those in and about Grand Rapids, and foreseeing possible difficulty owing to the impending gasoline rationing, it was decided that after the November meeting, to be held on Friday, the 13th, the regular Chapter meetings will thereafter be held every two months instead of monthly as heretofore.

It was recommended that the groups in the several cities hold informal meetings locally each month in which the regular Chapter meeting is not held.

The members in attendance at this meeting were surprised and pleased by the attendance of Member Kenneth C. Welch who has been seriously ill for several months.

Harry L. Mead, Secy.-Treasurer.

## Special—Extra—Super ANNOUNCEMENT FROM NINA PALMER

beginning at 10:00 A.M. Monday, November 2, the better halves of the architectural profession hereabouts will gather at the Palmer Home, 1039 Seminole Avenue, to sew for the Children's Hospital and the Florence Crittenden Home.

Owing to the lateness of this notice, it is suggested that the men-folk 'phone their wives, to attend, and "bring their own sandwiches"—or at least come in the afternoon.

## M.S.A. Handbooks Wanted

Michigan Society of Architects Official Handbook for 1930-1931 can be disposed of through the office of the Weekly Bulletin. This volume, the last published by the Society, has long been out of print, but there may be some architects who are willing to dispose of such books at \$5 per copy.

## DRAWING TABLES FOR SALE

Five 38" x 48" boards on horses, all in good condition. Original cost \$11 each. Now offered at \$6 (Board \$5, pair of horses \$1). Call The Bulletin.

Happy birthday—Edward A. Schilling, November 7.

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# FUNERAL CHAPEL, ESTES-LEADLEY CO., LANSING

C. WILLIAM PALMER, Architect

Taking steps with progress, the Estes-Leadley Company has erected this Chapel as an addition to their funeral home, built in 1923, on the corner of Washtenaw and Walnut Streets, Lansing.

The exterior is a cream yellow brick, matching the present building and, while not following any particular period in design, it is colonial in detail.

The Loggia on the side makes a covered passage between the Entrance Lounge and Family Room at the rear.

## INTERIOR

The vestibule at the front entrance has moulded mankato stone steps and wainscoting. The lounge, reposing room and lodge rooms, directly off the vestibule, have patterned floors of dull reds, creams and spotted blue asphalt tile. The walls and wood wainscot are in a pleasing cream, while the acoustical ceiling is of azure blue.

The chapel proper has blue asphalt tile floor, wood and plaster wainscot of cream, the ceilings lighter cream. The room is lighted by cove fluorescence, giving an even, brilliant light or soft glow, regulated by switches as desired.

The plaster grille at the end of chapel is the sound screen for the organ, located in a loft beyond the chapel. The chapel proper has a seating capacity of 250 persons, in pure colonial pews.

When necessary the folding sound curtains at the rear of the chapel may be opened to the lounge, thus making a seating capacity of 400.

The old building has been remodeled into a smaller chapel for private services, lobby, directors room and eight slumber rooms.

An entire new system of forced heating and ventilating has been installed, as well as loud-speaking system for all



Palmer

main rooms, with ear phones for those who do not hear so well.

Recreation room for employees, and storage occupy the basement of the addition.

The chapel is semi-fireproof construction with floor of 2-inch reinforced concrete on steel joists.

The building is located on a lot 180 by 200 feet, giving ample space for desirable landscaping and parking.

C. William Palmer, Architect.

Lee Black & Kenneth C. Black, in charge of supervision.

Nelson B. Hubbard, Mechanical Engineer.

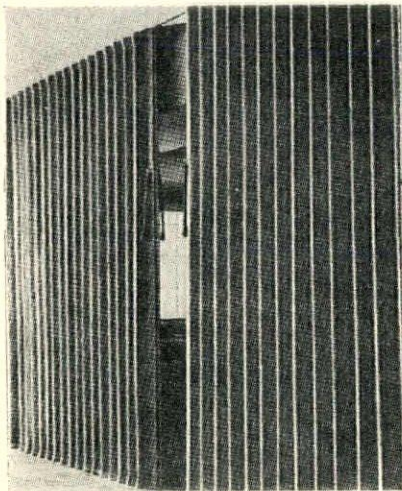
## How To Expand A Mortuary Estes-Leadley Chapel is Fine Example, Says Official

Mr. Edward Krieger, executive secretary of the National Selected Morticians, has traveled throughout the United States, in his visits to funeral homes, over a period of 18 years in his present connection.

Mr. Krieger has designated the Estes-Leadley Company's recently completed chapel as "the finest example of how to expand a mortuary I have ever seen."

"The exterior elevation is beautiful in its simplicity of design, appropriateness of line and harmonious in its blending of the old and the new. And when we come to the interior—

See MORTUARY—Page 8



## "Modernfold" Doors

with a velour covering were selected by C. William Palmer, Architect and Lee and Kenneth Black, Associate Architects, for the Leadley Funeral Chapel, as a movable partition between Chapel and Reception Room, and the two Slumber Rooms.

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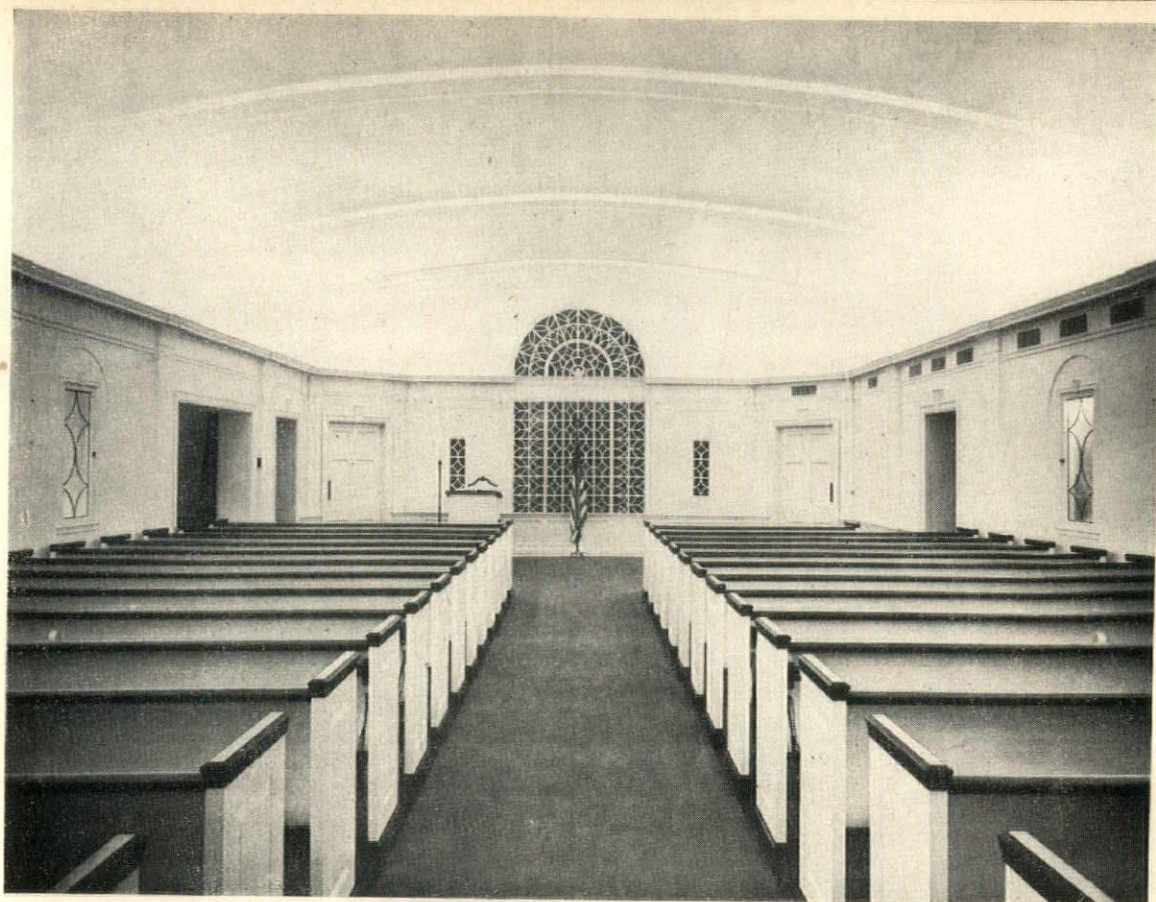
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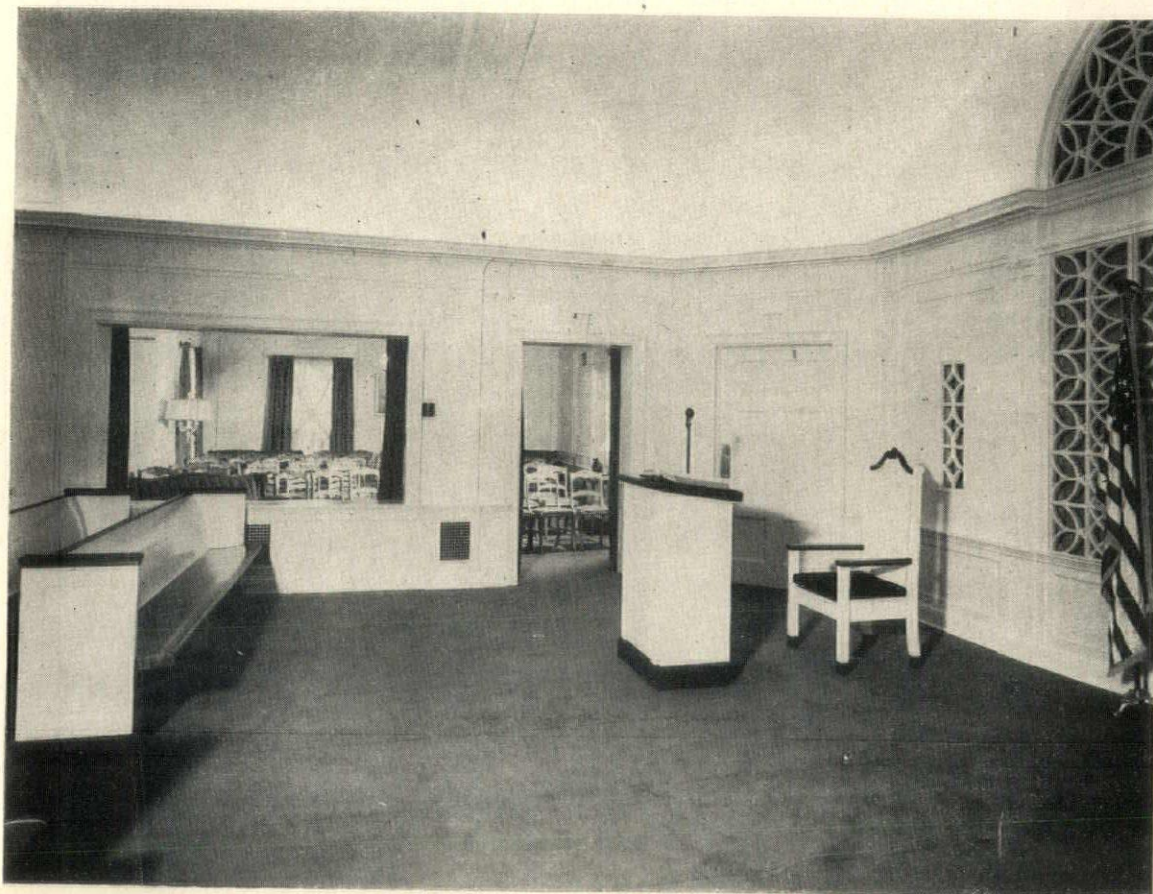
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TWO VIEWS OF INTERIOR OF CHAPEL, ESTES-LEADLEY COMPANY, LANSING, MICHIGAN

*C. William Palmer, Architect*



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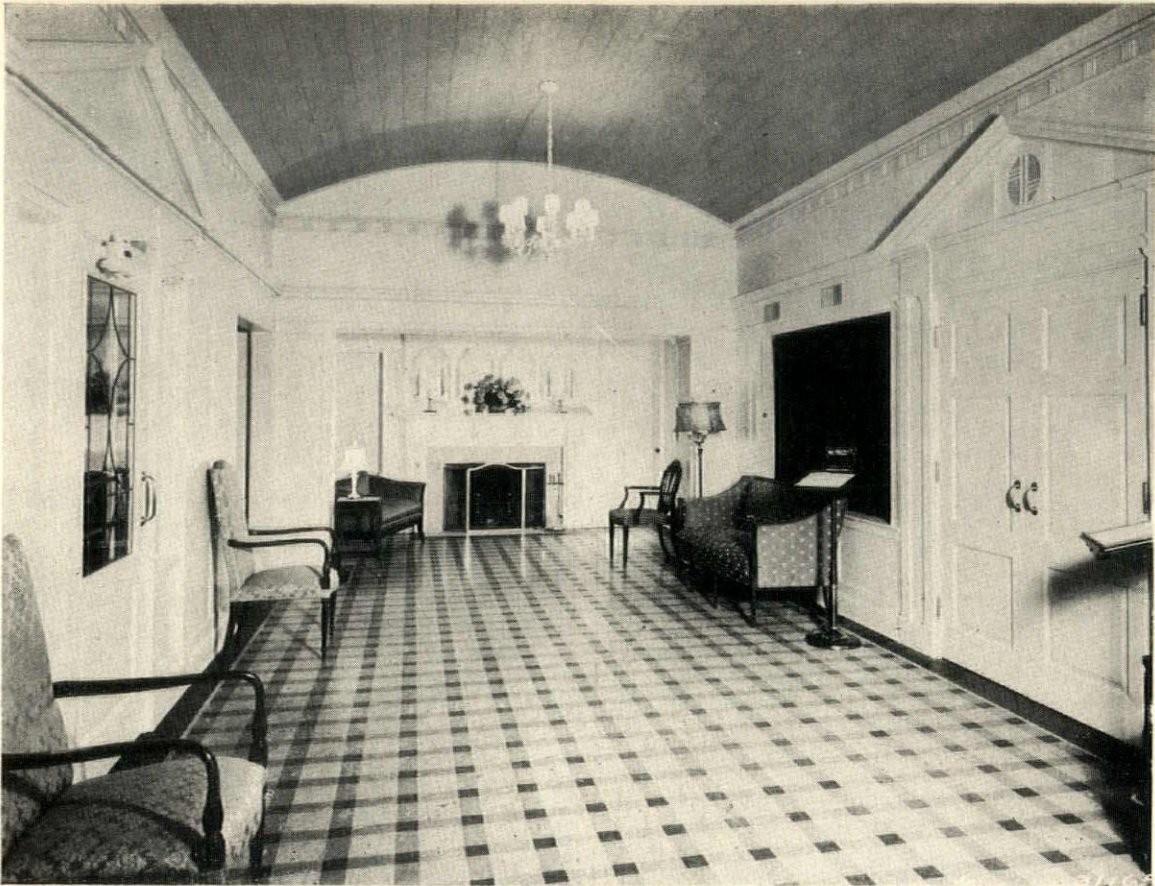
FUNERAL CHAPEL

LANSING, MICHIGAN



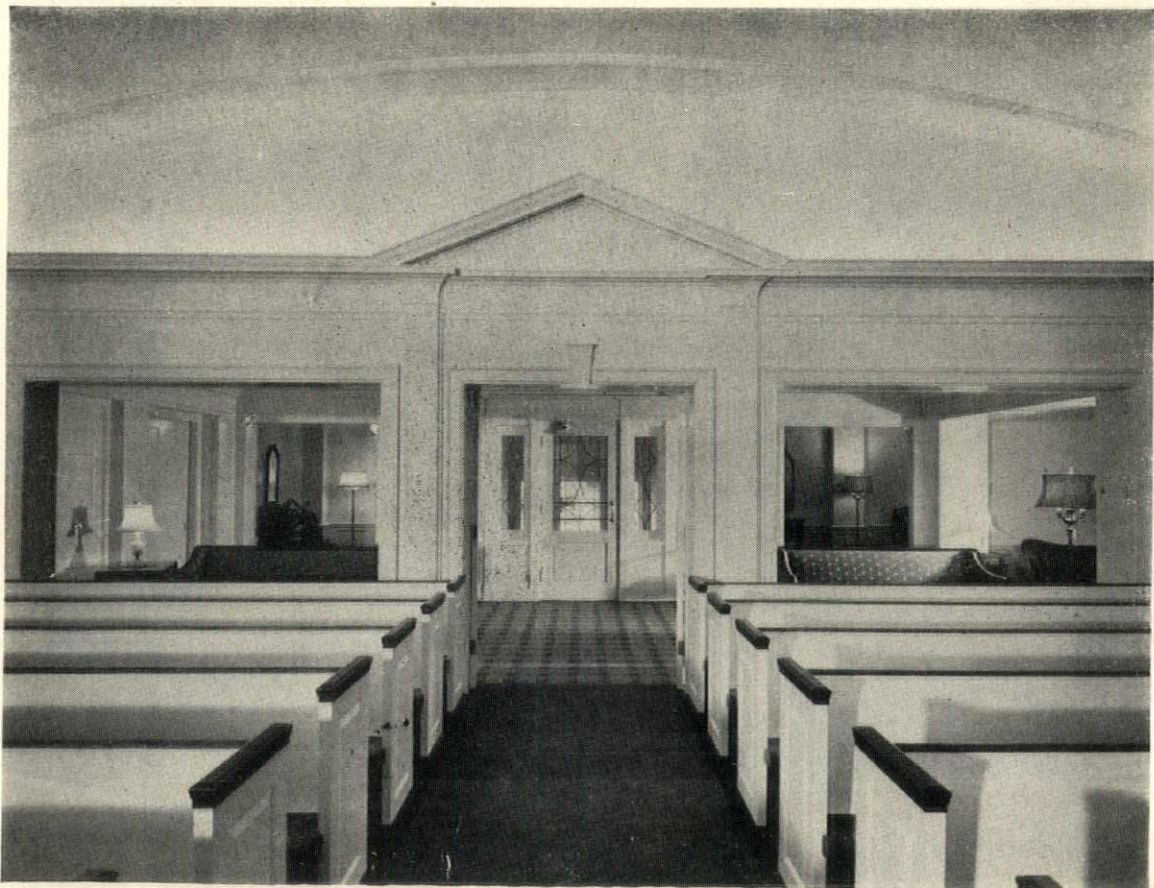
C. WILLIAM PALMER,  
Architect

LEE BLACK and KENNETH C. BLACK,  
Architects in Charge of Supervision



Above is a view of Entrance lounge, Funeral Chapel for Estes-Leadley Company;  
below, Chapel, looking toward entrance.

*C. William Palmer, Architect*



## MORTUARY—From Page 4

I'm not enough of an artist to adequately express my impressions of a building which is flexible, tasteful, beautiful and not overdone. Whatever the right word is—your architect did it. The grounds, the parking and the drives have added immensurably to your previous high efficiency. All in all, it meets all the specifications of the finest mortuary in America."

The Estes-Leadley Co. started in business in Lansing in 1914, conducting 40 funerals their first year in the city. Today their volume of funerals can be rated with the top 250 funeral establishments in the entire United States. They moved into the original building in 1923 and, outgrowing it, were compelled to make the recent addition. They are finding it very acceptable to the public, receiving many compliments from all who come into the establishment.

Mr. Estes is past president of the National Selected Morticians, an organization that selects one funeral establishment for a city, and that, of course, is done by invitation. Membership in the organization is not open to all who are in the funeral business. The thought behind the invitation is to select the outstanding firm of that city. At the present, he is serving as Treasurer of the Michigan Funeral Directors Association, which places him on the executive counsel of the Michigan Funeral Directors Association.

With Mr. Estes is associated Harry E. Leadley, who became a member of the organization in 1928. This firm has a staff of 14 members and lists 6 licensed embalmers besides a full-time mechanic, who keeps in first class condition a fleet of 12 cars.

The funeral home property occupies a quarter of a city block, directly opposite the State Office building in the city of Lansing, which gives them a parking space for a hundred cars and a driveway around the entire building.

With use, the flexibility of the arrangement of the interior is becoming more appreciated each day the firm serves the public; with 9 slumber rooms, the Colonial Chapel, which is a replica of the interior of a colonial church with its colonial style pews, and the Drawing Room Chapel, makes an arrangement that is of the first order.

Both the Drawing Room Chapel and the Colonial Chapel have separate family rooms for the family. The slumber rooms are so arranged that two or even three can be opened as one in case of a large ingathering of folks and an over abundance of floral tributes.

## TEMPORARY EXHIBITS

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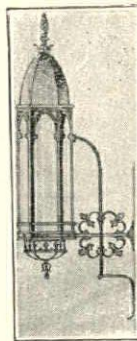
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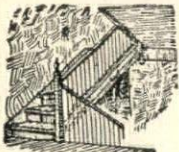
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Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly.  
Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Volume 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, NOVEMBER 10, 1942

No. 45

## WILLIAM E. KAPP ELECTED PRESIDENT, DETROIT CHAPTER, A. I. A.

William Edward Kapp, prominent industrial architect, was elected president of the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects at its Annual Meeting in the Rackham Memorial Building on the evening of October 21. He succeeds Emil Lorch, F.A.I.A., who had served two terms.

Richard H. Marr was elected vice-president; Joseph W. Leinweber, secretary; Ralph R. Calder, treasurer; Talmage C. Hughes, executive secretary, and Frederic A. Fairbrother, Director.

Kapp, formerly a member of the firm of Smith, Hinchman and Grylls, last year opened his own office to design large industrial plants. The speed with which he has handled these huge, vital war plants has been a major factor in the Nation's war effort. He was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and since 1919 he has practiced in Detroit.



Kapp

On Lorch's retirement at the Annual Meeting the following tribute was paid to him by Chapter members:

"As Emil Lorch, F.A.I.A., terminates a two-Year term as president of the Chapter, and as these past two years have been marked by a tremendous growth in both interest and membership, and as the Chapter has benefitted so obviously by his personal fineness of character as an exponent of the ideals of our profession, it is the desire of every member of the Chapter to express deep appreciation for his most distinguished service."

In summing up the work of the past year Lorch mentioned that the Chapter had practically doubled its membership. This, he said, was largely the result of a good system, wherein every member of the Chapter has the opportunity to vote by letter ballot. He pointed out that programs had been the best in the Chapter's history, with good speakers and good attendance.

"The 74th Annual Meeting of the Institute held here in June had a good press," he said, in paying tribute to its leadership. He characterized Mr. Shreve as "an extraordinarily successful and happy president."

Stating that his two terms had been two happy years of his life, the retiring president called attention to the serious times the profession is facing, adding that it is rising to the task magnificently. He praised the large Detroit organizations that have done great things in the Nation's war program, bringing credit to the profession and to our Chapter.



Lorch

only typical of the kind of leadership he provided. He  
See ANNUAL MEETING—Page 4

Two men who had distinguished themselves, and who had passed away during the past year, John M. Donaldson and H. J. Maxwell Grylls, both fellows of the Institute, were eulogized by Mr. Lorch.

"John M. Donaldson, a past vice-president of the Institute, was in the forefront of architectural leadership," he said. "Maxwell Grylls was one of the most happy officers we ever had. He was president of the Chapter when a proposed building code was up for action, and through his courage some most undesirable legislation was quashed. This was

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### Informational Meeting

Sponsored by General Electric Co.,  
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Detroit Leland Hotel, Thursday, Nov. 12, 1942

Cocktail 6:00, Dinner 6:30—Program 8:00 P.M.

Speaker—DR. L. J. BUTTOLPH, Illuminating Engineer,  
G. E. Co.

Subject—"LIGHT IN WAR and PEACE"

Dr. Buttolph has been a specialized lecturer in illuminating engineering courses at Case School of Applied Science, New York University and the School of Architecture at Columbia University.

For 20 years his hobby and profession have been the design and application of vapor lamps. Since the advent of fluorescent lighting he has devoted his time to special applications of this new source, particularly in relation to architectural problems.

In this program, which will be accompanied by demonstrations and exhibits, Dr. Buttolph will deal with the level of industrial lighting and the inadequacy of the foot candle as a measure of illumination, current lighting practice as an indication of future trends, adaptability of new sources to modern design as related to maintenance and service, generalities of fixture design, new lighting methods and materials, and the opportunity and responsibility of the architect.



Dr. Buttolph

## The Skunk Gulch Chronicle

OCTOBER 23, 1942

Ye editor understands that a bunch of the boys whooped it up again the other night here in Skunk Gulch. If this be true, ye editor would like to editorialize to the effect it would not be amiss should the law-abiding citizens of the vicinity slightly warn Snake-eyes Simpson, the proprietor, against a repetition of this sort of thing—in fact, a good necktie party might act as a deterrent to the habitués and sons of habitués who seem to frequent the low place.

It seems to be pretty well established that the orgy of October 22 was enough to outrage the whole community. It is known that the pancake batter flowed freely in the dimly lighted dive, and that the unsavory characters present were fortified still further by a devil's brew compounded of cider and T.N.T. by Half & Half Hartwick. So hopped up with the fiery fumes did some, such as Ack-ack Ackley, No-Peek Black and So-Red-the-Rose Rosa, become that they were seen to drink as many as two or three cups of coffee—and with sugar. To add to the revolting scene, Stupor Stewart, Ripper Gay, 'Andsome 'Arry 'Errick, and an unidentified hanger-oner resembling Angular Angus Langius, were early carried in a prone position to their dog sleds and sent on their way.

The remaining low characters, among them Killer (alias The Great Profile) Kresbach, hunched hopefully at the gaming table with six-shooters handy. Early in the evening the lights were shot out and only the fitful pulsating glow of the Northern Lights lit the eerie scene. Just at this tense moment—

But ye editor out of respect to his readers' sensibilities feels it incumbent upon him to draw a curtain upon the whole debasing episode at this point, trusting that the outraged citizenry knows how to deal with this menace in our midst—nay, this asp in our bosom.

OCTOBER 30, 1942

The editor is happy to announce that his editorial of last week apparently struck pay dirt, and that justice in the form of a stern warning has been meted out to certain characters in our neighborhood. In all fairness, we must state that Karl Killer (The Great Profile) Kresbach choked out something about a business meeting of the Central Michigan Division of

## Meeting

### Michigan Chapter American

### Society of Heating & Ventilating Engineers

### HORACE H. RACKHAM EDUCATIONAL MEMORIAL

Monday, November 16, 1942 Dinner at 6:30 P.M.

The principal speaker of the evening will be Professor A. P. Kratz, of the University of Illinois. Professor Kratz will address the meeting on the subject, "Rating and Performance of Warm Air Furnace Plants."

A sound film in color entitled, "Wings of Steel" will be shown by the U. S. Army Air Corps. Architects Invited.

## Keep These Dates Open

JOINT MEETINGS, DETROIT CHAPTER, A.I.A., AND  
DETROIT DIVISION, M.S.A.

Nov. 18—Talbat F. Hamlin, "The Architect, Planning and the Citizen," Dinner at the Rackham Bldg., 6:30 P.M.

December—None (Producers' Christmas Party).

Jan. 20—Annual Joint Meeting with Producers' Council. Dinner at Rackham Bldg., 6:30 P.M.

Feb. 17—Architectural Forum on Planning and Housing, with Metropolitan Art Association, at the Scarab Club, 8:30. Dinner preceding at the Rackham Bldg., 6:00 P.M.

March—None (M.S.A. Annual Meeting).

April 14—Ann Arbor, with Student Branch, Student Award. Elect delegates to A.I.A. Annual Meeting. Dinner at Michigan Union, 6:30 P.M.

May 5—Wilfred Laurier Husband, "How America Lives—Today and Tomorrow," at Central Methodist Church. Dinner preceding at Wolverine Hotel, 6:00 P.M.

## WAR CHEST

Drawing to a close is THE WAR CHEST OF METROPOLITAN DETROIT, which seeks to roll into one effort the many appeals of foreign and local relief organizations in order that Detroiters will be asked to "GIVE ONCE FOR ALL."

Charles N. Agree and Talmage C. Hughes, co-chairmen of the Architects' section, state that it is too early to give more than an interim report.

"In one office, that of Giffels and Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti, associate, before the force had been one-half covered, \$2867 has been obtained," Agree said, adding that all but \$400 of this sum was in cash. Chester L. Baumann, of G. & V., estimated that a total well over \$5000 would be reached.

With several other large offices, as well as the smaller ones, yet to be heard from, the architects' section should give a good account of itself.

Remember, every dollar given goes to the purpose intended, as a group of public spiritual citizens underwrote the administrative expenses before the campaign started.

Other workers, added to the list published last week, include Alvin E. Harley, of Harley & Ellington; Mrs. B. Waugh, of Shreve, Anderson & Walker; Clair A. Stuchell, of Stuchell & Buckheit.

Last year's quota for the Community Fund was \$2,500,000. This year, because of the added war relief funds, the quota is set at \$5,800,000, for Metropolitan Detroit. Of this, the architects' quota for 1941 was \$8,000, and for 1942, \$20,000. From present indications, it is safe to say that this quota will be reached.

Let us all rally to this great effort and be ready to help the suffering humanity of our allied nations and to keep up the courage of our boys in the service!

M.S.A. having been held, at which it was announced that upon the recommendation of the Division, the Board of Directors had appointed Ripper Gay to the vacancy created by the enlistment of Carl Rudine in the Naval Reserve. As K.K. (T.G.P.) K. was yanked off his cayuse and strung up to the nearest mesquite bush, he was also heard to mutter that the meeting was thrown open to a general discussion before adjournment.

## ANNUAL MEETING (Continued from Page 1)

had all the qualities of a great man, human and interested in many things, the Players' Club, golf, cricket and the more general aspects of the community."

Mr. Lorch commended work being done by the Institute and its Washington representative, and announced that the Chapter had agreed to help meet the trying conditions by contributing out of the treasury two dollars per member, or a total of about \$350. He touched upon the unification movement and the joint meetings of the two local groups for the coming year. Programs will be just as good as those of last year, he said.



Marr



Calder



Leinweber

Clair W. Ditchy, in presenting the Institute's certificate of Fellowship to Mr. Ernest Wilby, designated him as one of our most valuable members, and a genial member of the University of Michigan faculty.

"I have known him for 25 years, and there are many here who have known him for more than a quarter of a century," Ditchy said. "He has a great appreciation of architecture and the finer things of life."

The Institute citation was for "His achievement in design, science of construction, education and literature. His successful efforts to obtain originality and avoid the commonplace where opportunity offered in the use of modern materials and modern methods of construction, have been notable in their resultant beauty of form and proportion. From 1924 to 1929 he was successively Teacher and Professor of Architecture, University of Michigan. Upon his retirement from teaching, he was honored by the University by appointment as lecturer, as a token of appreciation. In 1936 he was appointed a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and Sciences, London, England."

In his response Mr. Wilby said it was quite impossible for him to express in words his appreciation of the assurance given him that in the eyes of his fellow men he was not an abject failure as an architect and as a man.

"As great an honor as is the Fellowship, the even greater one is the underlying fact that you men who know me best, know my merits and demerits, have acted as a jury of my peers and still think me worthy of this high honor. I have found architecture a friendly craft, filled with men I can immediately become friendly with. They do not, as a rule, receive great wealth or even great recognition but they have high ideals and are worth knowing.

"For 40 years I have worked, talked and played with you and my life is richer for it. Our relationship is like that of father to children, for many of you began your apprenticeship under Mr. Kahn and myself. I cherish the times when, at the end of a day, we gathered and talked and smoked and it was my privilege to pass out my convictions of what architecture is and what an architect should strive for.

"With such fine men anything less than the best I could give them seemed utterly wrong. The response was so cordial that I developed a feeling of very warm friendship. Architecture is not all work—there is the garden of life. How many flowers you young men have planted in the garden of my life. They are still blooming and making another happy for the good work you have done.



Wilby

"Please be assured that I value tremendously the good feeling and friendship you have shown me and that I shall go on liking you to the end of the trail."

William E. Kapp, the Chapter's new president, promised to do his best to maintain the high standard set by his predecessor, saying that any resolution is inadequate to express our indebtedness to Emil Lorch.

"I have known him for 30 years, since the old days of the Thumb Tack Club, and he has just as much enthusiasm for helping the young men and the profession now as he had then," he said, adding that on the board of the Chapter Professor Lorch had backed every good move that came up.

"The profession of architecture to me is not just work. I am as proud of the honor you have bestowed upon me tonight as Mr. Wilby is of his fellowship," Kapp concluded.

The business of the evening being over, Leroy E. Kiefer, architect, of the General Motors Camouflage and War Service Section, delivered a talk on Industrial Camouflage to some 55 members at the dinner. With lantern slides he gave a clear picture of the interesting things being done in an experimental way by his company. His talk will be published in a future issue.

This was the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Chapter—Emil Lorch, as past president, remains on the board to serve as director until succeeded by a following president. He has seen the Chapter grow from a membership of 12, when he first joined, to 172.

The new administration is fairly representative of the big offices. President Kapp is an architect of the first magnitude, a dynamic personality, whose executive ability and contact with the younger men will be valuable to the Chapter. Dick Marr, as vice-president, is tops in any man's league. Treasurer Ralph Calder, of Malcomson, Calder & Hammond, was advanced from director. Secretary Joe Leinweber, of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, is a new-comer to the board, as is director Fred Fairbrother, one of the Albert Kahn Associates (sorry we don't have his picture). Fred has been instrumental in bringing into the Chapter during the past year many of the Kahn organization. Besides Albert and Louis Kahn, Fairbrother and Lewis (of long standing), the score for the past year stands as follows: DeFonds (formerly Central N. Y. Chapter), Hubel (formerly Brooklyn Chapter), Bunce, French, Kenyon, King, Robinson, Schurman, Scrymgeour, Skart, Whiting, Tamplin.

The board will elect a director to fill the unexpired term (one year) of Mr. Kapp. Retiring officers deserve a big hand for their part in the Chapter's progress—vice-president Frantz, secretary Stirton, treasurer Perry.

We had expected to see Jim Spence at the meeting. He is now James A. Spence, Lieutenant, U. S. N. R., stationed at the Ford Naval School—Frank Wright must have been advertising the current attraction at the Wilson, "Life of the Party"—John Schurman, "I hadn't seen 'Pop' Wilby for 20 years."

The board had considered submitting to the members a proposal to reduce annual dues, from ten to five dollars, but with a subscription of two dollars per member to help carry on the Institute's program, and waiving dues of members in service, the budget will just about balance at the present figure.

Among those present were: Askew, Bailey, Bangman, Black, Brown, Bunce, Ralph Calder, Robt. Calder, Diehl, Ditchy, Fleischaker, Frantz, Hebrard, Hewlett, Hubel, Hughes, Hyde, Kapp, Kenyon, Harold Kiefer, Leroy Kiefer, Leinweber, Leone, Lewis, Lorch, Merritt, Meyer, Muehlman, F. C. O'Dell, Perkins, Perry, Pettibone, Pickell, Radford, Schulz, Schurman, Sheill, Skart, Smith, Stanton, Stephen, Straight, Stuchell, Sullivan, Taylor, Vose, Wagener, Wells, Wilby, Wright.



THE ANNUAL DINNER—Photos by Gordon Sheill

In the afternoon the board met jointly with the board of the Detroit Division, M.S.A., and Mr. George F. Emery, City Planner—Secretary, of the Detroit City Plan Commission, to discuss the prospect of Detroit Architects' participation in the planning of projects for the City's post-war program.

### In The Matter of Friendship

ALL that can be expected of any man is to make the best use of the things within his power. Only the contented man is rich; so we must look for the things that bring contentment. And first of these is to find a friend; and if you find two friends you are indeed a lucky man; and if you find three friends—real friends—then you are a rich and powerful man. In prosperity it is easy to find a friend, but in adversity it is most difficult of all things. No matter how small a man's means may be, if he gives of what he has to his friend it is the same as if it were a great amount. A man's pleasures are insured by sharing them with a great amount. A man's pleasures are insured by sharing them with a friend and his griefs are reduced by securing the sympathy of a friend. The counsel of a friend is the best counsel because it will be true advice; for, when received from a mere acquaintance, it may be so filled with flattery that its value will be destroyed, and true counsel rarely comes excepting from the true friend. It is said that in youth we have visions and in old age dreams, and the vision and the dream may give us an ideal of perfection; but experience and large contact with men compel us to accept the man who measures in his virtues only to the substantial average. If we view a man as a whole and find him good as a

friend, we must not be diverted from the happy average—the every day, human average—by using a magnifying glass upon his faults or frailties. We must, in order to have and hold a friend, accept him as he is, demanding but one thing in return for our affection—his fidelity.

—Extract from a Memorial Address delivered at Christ Church, St. Louis, Mo., December 7, 1919, by Harry B. Hawes.

From your friend Frank H. Wright.

**Bulletin:** It was good of you to respond to Mr. Kemper's request for a copy of the Bulletin with President Maginnis' Cranbrook address. I enjoyed it so much when I heard it that I wanted to be able to read it leisurely for further enjoyment. Of course, when read it lacks the delightful mannerisms of the speaker, but its sparkling wit and humor are all there. We intend to have it mimeographed as part of our monthly document called "The Paragraph" through which we transmit to the members our notice of meetings, a brief of the minutes of the previous meeting, and now all the news we can get about our absentee members.

Being a small chapter, with only 20 members and 14 or 15 associates, a mimeographed document is the best we can do. But we find it has a very personal touch and is of real value in holding us together. Half of our members and all but two or three associates are either in the armed services or working in offices buildings war plants. We are operating on the basis that "The Chapters are the Institute. Our Chapters must live."

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**LADIES**

Nina Palmer reports that the first sewing circle held on November 2, was a big success, with eleven present. The next meeting will be held on November 23, beginning at 10:00 A.M. Architects' wives are invited to attend, at the Palmer residence, 1039 Seminole avenue. Bring sandwiches, or come in the afternoon, if you can't spend the day. The ladies sew for the Children's Hospital and Florence Crittenden Home. A sewing kit is necessary equipment.

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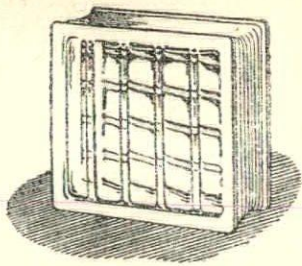
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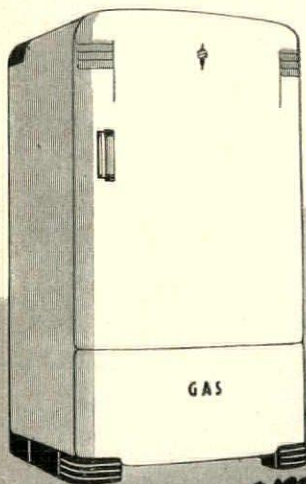
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Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly.  
Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Volume 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, NOVEMBER 17, 1942

No. 46

## Hamlin To Discuss New Architectural Concepts

Talbot F. Hamlin, librarian at Avery (architectural) Library, Columbia University, in New York City, will be the speaker at a dinner meeting of the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, in the Rackham Building, on November 18, it has been announced by William E. Kapp, Chapter president.

Hamlin graduated from the School of Architecture at Columbia in 1913, when his father, the late A. D. F. Hamlin, author of Hamlin's Architectural History, was head of the school. The history, widely used as a text book in architectural courses, has been revised in recent years, enlarged and brought down to date by Talbot Hamlin.

At his Detroit appearance, which will also be attended by members of the Detroit Division of the Michigan Society of Architects, Mr. Hamlin will point up the necessity of planning in a democratic society, with special reference to the opportunity offered by new concepts of the relations of city forms to living ways. He will also deal with the tremendous importance of aesthetic considerations in this planning in order to make life not only healthy but rich and inspiring, and in order to develop civic and local pride.



Mr. Hamlin

"The architect is by training the only person in the modern world fitted to see planning problems in their human as well as their technical aspects," Mr. Hamlin says.

"Architects must take the leadership now, or see their whole field snatched from them by the socialists, economists and engineers, with consequent false emphasis throughout. The immediate job of the architect is to build up public opinion, as yet unawakened, to support the city planning commission and city planning ideas by education of the people in general and, especially, of the financial and real estate interests."

Commenting on today's architectural trends, Hamlin says that buildings with little or no ornament, and of the simplest materials, may often be more beautiful than the most expensive marble tricked over with the most lavish carving of ornament and sculpture.

"The difference between being well dressed and being 'all dolled up' is enormous, and oftentimes the best-dressed person is the most simply dressed person", he points out, adding that the same is true of buildings.

"If the arrangements of the towns we live in are pleasant, it is because some architects have thought to place them rightly; if our quarters are inconvenient or dull, it is because no creative architectural imagination has been at work.

"Architecture is being created around us still. It is often a new beauty, because so many of the needs of modern life are new, and because industry offers so many new and lovely materials, and engineering gives us new means of building. Each new need, each new material, each new structural method suggests new forms that are suitable to it, makes new beauty possible".

All architects invited

### JOINT DINNER MEETING

### DETROIT CHAPTER & DETROIT DIVISION

Rackham Bldg., Wednesday, November 18,  
Dinner at 6:30 P. M.

Speaker: TALBOT F. HAMLIN

Subject: "THE ARCHITECT, PLANNING  
AND THE CITIZEN"

William Edward Kapp, newly elected president of the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, will preside. While this lecture is under the auspices of the Detroit Chapter, it is a joint meeting of all architects in the Detroit area. Just drop in for dinner, or attend the lecture only at 8:00 P. M. The public is invited.

NOTE: Chapter Board will meet at 5:00 P.M., and then jointly with the Board of the State Society at 4:00 P.M.

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## Civilian Protection Committee Organized

Steps were taken November 9 to organize a committee from the building industry in Detroit to cooperate with the City's Civilian Defense Committee, headed by Mr. Henry Reese.

At a luncheon meeting in the Rackham building, called by Mr. Joseph P. Wolff, commissioner of Buildings and Safety Engineering, those attending, in addition to the commissioner and Mr. Reese, included E. L. Brandt, secretary of the Engineering Society of Detroit; Ralph A. MacMullan, secretary of the General Builders' Association; Edmund Kuhlman, executive vice-president of the Builders' Association of Metropolitan Detroit; E. J. Brunner, secretary of the Builders' and Traders' Exchange; Frank Simpson and John DeFevre of the Building Department, and Talmage C. Hughes, executive secretary of the local architectural groups.

The building department, as a division of the local OCD, has inspected all suitable type buildings for the purpose of designating the safest available places of refuge, to serve as air raid shelters, it was explained by Mr. Wolff, in proposing to carry on this program to include other types of buildings.

"Single and two-family dwellings and buildings where proper shelter facilities have already been designated and proper safety precautions established by the owners, will not be designated," Mr. Wolff stated.

At the meeting the group discussed ways and means of developing an organization consisting of volunteers from organizations in the building and engineering fields to carry on the extended program of finding and designating suitable air raid shelters. The program will be under the jurisdiction of the director of the OCD for the City of Detroit.

For some time the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects has had a civilian protection committee, headed by J. Ivan Dise, which has been standing by awaiting a call from the City, it was stated by Hughes. That this call has been somewhat delayed is because Mr. Reese has been studying programs in other cities. He has brought back his findings to guide in the local program, and the experiences of other localities will be of use here in avoiding mistakes generally made in the early stages of such undertakings.

"As things have developed, the delay has meant no harm, as no air raids have occurred," Mr. Reese pointed out, adding that the first principle for the public to remember is that, in case a raid does occur, any shelter is better than no shelter at all.

The next step to be taken by the committee is the designation of buildings in various areas as safe shelters, or at least the safest available, and certain areas within those buildings as the safest areas. To do this the services of a number of volunteers among the architects, builders and engineers are needed. They are to be designated as "shelter engineers."

For this purpose, areas and zones will coincide with those of the present air raid warden organization, in which there are 13 areas, each divided into a number of zones, and each zone divided into a number of sections, depending upon population. There are 354 sectors and it is for these units that volunteers are needed to serve as shelter engineers.

To qualify one should be sufficiently familiar with building construction to be able to select buildings and areas within buildings that will afford best protection. The large offices where there are many men of architectural and engineering experience, and who reside in various sections of the city, afford the best opportunity of recruiting such assistance. Such employers are requested to ascertain which of their employees are qualified and willing to serve, and in what areas of the city they live. This information should be furnished to the office of the Bulletin.

**Happy Birthday**—James K. Haveman, Nov. 15; Talmage C. Hughes, Nov. 17 (Smokes Piedmonts); John P. Baker, Nov. 18.

NOVEMBER 17, 1942

## Julius Kahn

Julius Kahn, almost as well known in the construction field as his brother, Albert, of Detroit, died at his home in Cleveland, Nov. 4, of a heart attack. He was 68 years old.

Born in Munstereifel, Germany, he came to the United States in 1881, at the age of 7, with his family. He was graduated as an engineer from the University of Michigan in 1896.

From 1898 to 1900 he was chief engineer for a group of sulphur mines in Japan. After his return he became associated with his brother, Albert, as chief engineer of the Detroit firm, and developed the design for a reinforced bar for concrete, the so-called Kahn bar.

The Truscon Steel Co. was formed in Youngstown, Ohio, to manufacture the bar, which became the basis of reinforced concrete structure. Mr. Kahn remained president until Truscon Steel sold out to the Republic Steel Co., of Cleveland.

He remained with Republic three years as vice-president, then resigned to devote more time to private interests. He was the author of many articles on engineering.

Mr. Kahn held membership in the American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the Society of Political and Social Science.

In 1903 he married Margaret Kohut, of New York City. Surviving besides his wife and brother, Albert, are a daughter, Mrs. William Gresser; a son, Julius, Jr., an Army flying instructor in Arizona, and two other brothers, Felix, of San Francisco, and Louis, of Detroit.

## Architects Wanted

The Home Owners' Loan Corporation is seeking architects to work on a fee basis in connection with its conversion program. The work entails measuring existing buildings, making sketches for creating more living units and following through with plans, specifications and supervision.

The work can be full time or part time, as the architect wishes. In that way one can keep his office open and devote a part of his time to his own business. The plan, which has been explained in the newspapers, includes taking over by the HOLC of properties at existing rentals, remodeling and re-renting by the Government for the duration, after which time the property, with its improvements, is returned to the owner. The owner receives as much in rentals as he would ordinarily and gets the improvements at no cost to him.

Those interested should get in touch with Mr. Paul W. Roe of HOLC, room 108 Federal Bldg., CH. 9330.

## Aesthetic Control

Mr. George F. Emery, City Planner, Secretary of the Detroit City Plan Commission, writing in *The Planner*, states that countless proposals have been made for laws to regulate design, construction and location of various structures so as to improve the appearance and decrease the visual annoyances of a city. He points out, however, that "in almost every instance where this attempt has been made, the proponents of private property rights have actively opposed these proposals as an unwarranted effort to regiment property owners and limit private enterprise in initiative in accordance with abstract and undefinable standards of taste."

"For a long time the courts have refused to sanction any such type of regulations but more recently the trend has reversed, and there is now a growing realization that unnecessary ugliness can be defined and prohibited," Mr. Emery says.

"Many believe, therefore, that the city of the future cannot attain its fullest potentialities of providing the most wholesome and desirable environment for its inhabitants unless some effort is made to protect the public against unnecessary and unjustifiable irritation and discomfort in the enjoyment of its visual faculties. That this can be done without strait-jacketing design or unduly limiting the development of the individual's freedom and originality of taste, is now generally conceded. There appears to be a need, therefore, for a basis and procedure of establishing an acceptable and reasonable regulation to accomplish these objectives."

## Architects Society of Ohio Reelects Officers

At its recent Ninth Annual Meeting at Cedar Point, The Architects Society of Ohio, "For the best interests of the Society", reelected all officers, as follows: Ralph W. Carnahan, president; E. Milton MacMillan, 1st vice-president; Willis A. Vogel, 2nd vice-president; Ralph C. Kempton, secretary; George M. Foulks, treasurer, and George B. Mayer, member of the executive committee.

An important resolution stated that

"Unification of the architectural profession in the State of Ohio has become a very practical necessity; . . . consolidation of the profession in Ohio has gone about as far as it can under present regulations; and we believe the time is now ripe to complete this objective in Ohio."

Among the provisions proposed are:

A State Society made up of active and non-active members (comprising all the architects registered in the State) . . . attached or assigned to the existing A.I.A. Chapters for administrative purposes;

"That said State Society members not Associate or Corporate A.I.A. members may be granted such rights and privileges and pay such dues as may be equitable and satisfactory."

"That the Executive Board be composed of six members elected by the six divisions of the State Society as their directors to serve for one year and a president to be elected at the annual meeting.

"Any registered architect in good standing, excepting the Division President, shall be eligible for election as Director."

And from fabulous Westchester County, N. Y., richest in per capita wealth of any county in the U. S., we read in The Blue Print, publication of the Westchester County Society of Architects:

"At the next meeting there will undoubtedly be some discussion about the advisability of changing the name of our society to the 'The Westchester Society of Architects, AIA'. It seems that the members of the Institute are beginning to realize that in order to represent the profession, they must have as members all of the Architects in the country.

"For this reason and because of the financial conditions of the times, the dues and Initiation fees have been reduced for the next three years to Five dollars per year dues and Five dollars initiation fee. As there is an overlapping of members in both societies, it seems only right, if we are to survive in the post-war period, that we band together now in an effort to have architects properly represented and protected."

An important two-day conference on replanning and rebuilding of cities was recently sponsored by the Urban Land Institute at the Cranbrook Academy of Art. A number of persons were in attendance from all parts of the country, including Institute members and others concerned with the problems of cities.

The high point of the meeting was the presentation by Mr. Eliel Saarinen, famous architect and civic designer, of his plan of Organic Decentralization for the replanning and rebuilding of metropolitan communities.

\* \* \*

The Main Library is now open on Sunday from 2:00—10:00 P. M. for reading and reference only. The week-day hours are 9:00 A. M.—10:00 P. M. Branch Library hours remain unchanged.

\* \* \*

*Bulletin:* Having lost the issue of the Weekly Bulletin which quoted Mr. Maginnis' address to the architects at Cranbrook during the convention, I address this request to you in hope that you may have an extra copy which you might send to me.

At this time I must tell you how much of a success the Bulletin has been and how interesting it is to read. It has come, as far as I know, without charge and I think the least I can do is to pay the subscription price which I will do with pleasure—*Alfred Shaw.*

## Independence Hall Association Formed

A group of public spirited citizens of Philadelphia have formed the Independence Hall Association, Inc., for the purpose of safeguarding historic structures in Philadelphia, and to improve their surroundings. D. Knickerbacker Boyd, well known to the architectural profession, and a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects is executive secretary.

There are within the section of Old Philadelphia, known as the Independent Hall area, certain buildings in which took place the formulation and adoption of the principles of liberty under law. In Independence Hall the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were adopted, and the Liberty Bell is housed. There are also certain other historic structures in this area. In close proximity to many of these are unsuitable buildings which emphasize the menace of fire, in peace as well as in war, and also impair the dignity of the setting of these historic shrines.

"It is with these facts in mind," says Mr. Boyd, "that the sponsors hold the conviction that it is the obligation of the City of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to cooperate with the custodians of these historic shrines and with our members to cause to be prepared and presented an acceptable plan under which certain areas in the vicinity of these historic structures shall be acquired, and improved with proper regard for the world-wide significance of such structures.

"The governments of the City of Philadelphia and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, accordingly, will be urged to assume leadership in the making of the necessary surveys and studies of the areas and in considering all available previous plans; the new Association to be charged with expediting this preliminary work, to the end that all details may be agreed upon and working plans may be ready for allocation of funds, condemnation of land and actual construction when an appropriation shall have been made and it is practicable to proceed with the project.

"Through this Association the opportunity is offered for our generation to provide adequate and proper protection of these irreplaceable historic structures, and to bring about the improvement of their environments, so that for all time they may memorialize the cause of liberty under law and may serve as a world-wide inspiration."

## Cotton Insulation

A new insulation made of cotton is announced by Chuck Sestok of Fir-Tex of Michigan, distributor.

This new insulation, made from an old product, is economical and practical and has low thermal conductivity, or "K", Sestok states. It is extremely light in weight and has no tendency to sag. Since it is treated, under Government supervision, it is highly resistant to moisture and does not support combustion, even when subject to flame of a blow torch. It is made by Lockport Cotton Batting Co., of New York.

## War Chest Goes Over

The architects' division of the War Chest Campaign, which closed November 12, did itself very proud this year, thanks to Charles N. Agree, our chairman. Exclusive of the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kahn (\$8,500), the architects' total will reach a figure around \$13,000, or better. Mr. Agree offers his thanks to a fine group of solicitors.

As an example of how architects cooperate, Leonard Willeke telephoned that he had been missed. He asked to be placed on the list of the architects' division, and then he sent in his check for \$50.

## Men in Service

The Bulletin is interested in knowing about Michigan architects now in the services. Anyone having such information will confer a favor by helping us obtain a complete list on men, their ranks, units and addresses.

## Scholarship Goes To Mexican

The Delano and Aldrich Scholarship, given to an outstanding young foreign architect for four months or more of study and travel in the United States, has been granted for the first time to a Latin American rather than to a Frenchman, Leopold Arnaud, Dean of the Faculty of Architecture at Columbia University, and Chairman of the Committee of Pan-American Affairs of the American Institute of Architects, announces.

Carlos Lazo, Jr., of Mexico City, was the winner of a competition organized by the Sociedad de Arquitectos Mexicanos, after the Committee of Pan-American Affairs had selected Mexico as the republic which should receive the award.

The Delano and Aldrich Scholarship, established in 1928, has always been given to a Frenchman until this year.

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BULLETIN

THE AMERICAN  
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
1941 NOV 23 AM 10:50  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

# MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

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Entered as second-class matter December 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Michigan, under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly.  
Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Volume 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, NOVEMBER 24, 1942

No. 47

## Planning, the Architect, and the Citizen

By Talbot F. Hamlin, A.I.A., Avery Librarian, Columbia University

A lecture before The Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, Nov. 18, 1942

Planning of some sort—that is, the attempt to mold one's environment for the purpose of achieving a definite aim—is an inevitable accompaniment of the complex life of today. With people crowding on people in congested cities, with interests clamoring against other interests for power or profit, with cross-purposes on the part alike of individuals, corporations, and governmental bodies, there is such an opportunity for collision and conflict, for failure and loss, for the destruction of efficiency in work or of pleasure in rest, that some sort of planning to give an underlying pattern is the one hope of avoiding chaos.

We have had our foretastes of chaos in 1929 in the economic world. We have our evidences of chaos in the confused and almost senseless pattern of land values in the cities of today, and in the blight which, like a disease, is destroying both the appearance and the usefulness of area after area close to the centers of any number of our American cities. This must not continue indefinitely, and the only way we can prevent it is by taking forethought by planning.



Mr. Hamlin

Now of course all planning is merely a means to an end. From the human point of view it is the end which is important rather than the means, and I believe I am justified in thinking that the decisions we make in the next few years with regard to planning matters are going to determine irrevocably the ends and aims of American life. If we want democracy we must plan for it, and democracy of necessity must be economic as well as political.

There are any number of questions, affecting the actual physical planning of our land, which cry out for answers in terms of this fact. What kind of cities and towns and countryside do we want? Are we to plan a world made for speculators—or for creators and producers? Are we to

produce for the many—or for the few? Are we developing cities to sell—or to live in? Housing to shelter robots—or individual human beings? What is to be the deciding criterion? Is it to be money and profit alone—or is it to be the growing enrichment of human consciousness?

These may seem vague questions pertaining perhaps more to the pulpit than to the planner's office, and yet the design of every building, every zoning ordinance, every arrangement of traffic or transit is going to be affected by our answers to these questions. We cannot escape them. We may answer them ignorantly or carelessly, but the plans we make will embody our answers, and the communities of the future will make the quality of these answers clear. Our children will know, even if we don't, which way we decided.

And, if we do not make these answers definitely, there are lots of agencies which will make them for us. There are hundreds of pressure groups, the country over, who know what they want and are planning to get it. There are associations of financiers and businessmen interested in profits. There are born speculators who are willing to sacrifice health and security and beauty for the sake of *perhaps* making a profit, and in their effort willing to force this sacrifice of efficiency and beauty and pleasantness upon

See HAMLIN—Page 4

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## G. E. Entertains Architects, Producers

General Electric Co., Lamp Division, was host at a Producers' Council informational meeting at the Detroit Leland Thursday evening.

Entering the cocktail reception, the backs of guests' hands were stamped with an invisible ink, later to be brought into full view under a colored flashlight as they entered the banquet hall. This novel way of "vouching for" the guests was only one of the interesting phenomena of the evening.

Much friendly spirit was observed, which always marks the beginning attendance at Architects meetings for those we see too infrequently. In so enticing them they are made to see what they have been missing all along, and thereafter they are new "workers in the vineyard."

At dinner Dorothy Berlin was in evidence, with her accordion, and a background of fluorescent tubes in more colors than has the rainbow. Wendell Holmes, the local boy who made good with his voice, brought tears to our eyes (no kidding).

For favors each guest received a copy of the book *Fluorescent Lighting Manual*, by Charles L. Amick, of Nela Park Engineering Department of General Electric Company.

Bill Harms, local Producers' president, made quick work of introductions and turned the meeting over to Mr. Earl A. Anderson, manager for Michigan of the G. E. Lamp Division.

Mr. Anderson stated that since lighting was often considered the most simple task and yet is a most complex problem, it was gratifying that in the last few years there had been made available products that revolutionize lighting problems and their solution. He explained that this was the first in a series of such meetings to be held in metropolitan centers of the U.S., stating the company's purpose at not telling architects what they should do, but to cooperate with them to achieve better results in lighting.

Company sales manager Boynton, said that the title of salesman is today "technician", because G.E. has nothing to sell but service, and that is devoted to a great effort to make the war come to a successful conclusion. Ted Brown, senior illuminating engineer of the local staff, offered the services of his office to that end.

The feature of the program was a talk by Dr. L. J. Buttolph, illuminating engineer, of G.E., who spoke on "Light in War and Peace". By charts, slides and other visual demonstrations, he conducted a most interesting and educational session, touching upon the important influence lighting has on our lives.

## Four Free Lectures

Four free talks are scheduled for the coming week at the Main Library, Woodward at Kirby.

Monday, November 16, 8:00 p. m., in the club room. "Robert Frost"—Mr. L. E. Dickinson, Associate Professor of English, Wayne University.

Monday, November 16, 8:30 p. m., in the auditorium. "Origins of Colonial American Art"—Mrs. Joyce Black Gnaou, Detroit Institute of Arts.

Tuesday, November 17, 8:30 p. m., in the auditorium. "Germany"—Dr. Paul K. Butterfield, Assistant Professor of History, Wayne University. Dr. Butterfield, a specialist in Modern European History, studied at the University of Berlin and Göttingen University. He is the author of "The Diplomacy of the Bagdad Railway, 1890-1914."

Sunday, November 22, 3:00 p. m., in the auditorium. "Recreation at Home for All the Family"—Miss Laurentine Collins, Supervisor of Health Education, Detroit Public Schools.

## Lyndon and Smith To Practice Separately

The partnership of Lyndon & Smith has been dissolved and Eberle M. Smith will carry on the business previously undertaken by this firm, at the same address 208 Murphy Building, Highland Park, Michigan. Maynard Lyndon will continue his practice as an architect from 427 Beloit, Westwood, Los Angeles, California.

## Army Takes Large Grand Rapids Buildings

Grand Rapids soon will become the center of training for 5000 soldiers attending weather school, it was recently announced from Washington.

Among important buildings taken over for this purpose are the 750-room Pantlind Hotel, Civic Auditorium, Fine Arts building, Manufacturers building, and the Michigan Soldiers Home.

Close on the heels of this announcement came another that additional buildings would be used. They include the 300-room Rowe Hotel, Grand Rapids' second largest hotel, and two other buildings not yet named.

Milton C. Major, of Kalamazoo, member of the Detroit Chapter A.I.A., and Michigan Society of Architects, spent last Monday, in Detroit. Mrs. Major accompanied him but Milt took enough time out for a luncheon get-together of a few "old cronies" of the former Thumb Tack Atelier days. Gathered around the table at Stouffer's were Messrs. George Bassett, Julius Nagy, Al Foster, George Golchert, Milton Major, and Frank Boughner.

The association dates back to the late twenties, when the Atelier met in the old News building at Shelby and Larned Streets.

Milton, who has been with the Upjohn Company for some years, finds his work at present most interesting. The company is engaged in war work, providing first-aid preparations, packaged foods and food concentrates, including emergency "K" rations. The company has just been awarded the Army-Navy "E".

Clair W. Ditchy, A.I.A., and Otis Winn, A.I.A., are new directors on the board of the Citizens Housing and Planning Council of Detroit.

## TO THE LADIES

All Architects' ladies hereabouts are CORDIALLY INVITED by Nina Palmer, wife of the famous Billie, president of the M.S.A., to attend the second in a series of sewing parties being held at her home, 1039 Seminole.

**Monday, Nov. 23, Beginning at 10:00 A. M.**

Architects are requested to convey this message to their ladies, who will then consider this a **Special Invitation** to attend, with sewing baskets and sandwiches—or come in the afternoon if unable to spend the day. At the first session, held November 2, much useful work was done by eleven needleworkers for the Children's Hospital and Florence Crittenden Home.

## Construction Men Needed

The army needs construction engineers, who, if they pass the regular army examinations, will become eligible for commissions as lieutenants or captains, it is announced by Maj. Gen. H. S. Aurand, commanding general of the sixth service command.

Applicants must be between the ages of 35 to 44, with at least five years experience. Applications are being accepted at Room 1300, Penobscot Building.

**Happy Birthday** — Victor C. Adler, Nov. 24; Malcolm R. Stirton, Nov. 24; John Mackenzie, Nov. 26; Norman Krecki, Nov. 27; John C. Thornton, Nov. 27; Leslie M. Lowery, Nov. 28; John Vanden Bogert, Nov. 28.

## HAMLIN (Continued from Page 1)

the rest of the world. There are misled real estate boards who can see no other answer to the economics of land and its use than the old mad squabbles which brought with them the bankruptcies and the confusion and the blight of 1929.

All of these people realize the value of planning, if the planning is *their* way. Unless those who believe that planning has a higher end than power for a few, and life a nobler purpose than luxury for a few, combine to see that the future is planned—their way, they will find rapidly enough that the opportunity for improvement has gone and the old reactionary forces have seized the power of planning to force American life back into a still wilder, more intense, more dangerous and devastating competition on the one hand, or else into that industrial feudalism—in which the many not only work for, but seemingly exist for, the few—which is the apparent aim of many industrial bodies.

But planning, many say, is itself undemocratic—dangerous to the individual, dangerous to initiative. These people correlate planning with laissez-faire economy, blind to the fact that in our own day the dangers to the individual consciousness and to individual initiative come less from governmental regimentation than from economic pressures. Monotony of work and squalor of surroundings are not the best schools for rich individuality. In the old days of an expanding economy, when all the West was there for the discontented to open, the frontier was a school of self-respect and rich living. Today we have as our representatives of the frontier life the city bum and the hobo. It was not government, or planning by government, which forced this change.

I should say, therefore, that governmental planning to prevent these tragedies, or to mitigate them, is a service to democracy rather than the reverse, even if it entails restrictions—even severe restrictions—on certain types of economic effort.

The planning we are interested in, if we accept this premise, is the physical planning of cities and towns. It involves, first of all, an evaluation of our present achievements. What really are our towns like?

May I sketch a typical town? It is a small town, with one or two little industries, perhaps a market center for the surrounding countryside. The town first declares itself to us, as we approach it, by signboards flanking the highway or the railroad, telling us in enormous flaring letters where to eat or sleep or buy goods. As we get closer the signs multiply, and all sorts of sheds and ugly half-temporary structures line the way between—hot-dog stands, garages, and service stations, innocent usually of even a half-hearted effort at design. At one side a junk yard is filled with a chaotic confusion of old rusting automobile bodies, fenders, wheels. Across the way the ruins of a fine old mansion stand, with broken, hanging blinds and a front yard filled with tin cans and shattered bottles and weeds. An old car drawn up at the steps, newspapers wadded into broken panes, and raw new boards nailed across an old leak reveal that the house is still inhabited—probably by several families.

We come to Main Street, wide, treeless, asphalted, lined solid on each side by cars parked diagonally, their rounded tops glittering like the carapaces of vast beetles. The buildings to right and left vary from one to five stories in height. They are of all vintages. Heavy, frowning, bracketed cornices and large, widely spaced, arched windows proclaim the solemn dignity of the late 1850's. Yellow brick structures, soiled and streaked, decorated with "Renaissance" terra cotta, date from the early years of this country. Red brick pseudo-Colonial and "modernistic" white terra cotta eye each other suspiciously in their arrogant pride of newness. Near the center of town, where the latest standardized "Colonial" post office is built, the fronts of two movie theaters, gaudy with posters and gilt, yawn with gaping maws to swallow their periodic crowds. Wherever a building shoulders itself above its neighbors, its sides are plastered with signs in order that he who runs may read where to buy this, that, or the other—radios, automobiles, improved lots, clothing, food, or houses.

To the right, down by the hurrying river and the mills,

lie the slums—shacks and old houses, subdivided and crowded and dingy, unkept, confused, with the dreary drabness which Burchfield has so poignantly painted. On the hillside to the left live those who are better off, in houses aggressively neat, which in style and form and color fight each other as relentlessly as the shops downtown. The newest and biggest are all supposedly Colonial, as though an unconscious protest against the sprawling jumble of the town life could find its only expression in a tired antiquarianism.

Is this the best America can do? The picture is, I believe, not overdrawn. Almost all of you must be thinking of opposite examples. Is this the best school of rich living which our democracy can furnish?

Or take the bigger cities; take Detroit. In all humility I realize that I am an outsider, knowing Detroit only as a visitor. Yet Detroit is a particularly appropriate example, for more than any other city in America Detroit represents the triumph of modern industrialism. It was here that mass production achieved its first noteworthy successes; here that mass production, based on a magnificent industry, has dictated the development for a third of a century. Here if anywhere should the needs of the future be clearest and the qualities of today most strikingly presented.

What do I as a visitor find? Is it too much to say that the first impression is confusion? Parking lots and vacant lots surround buildings which cost millions; skyscrapers shoulder themselves above their neighbors apparently without regard for them; areas of down-at-heels, characterless dwellings—almost slums—abut the most expensive and lavish structures. There are, to be sure, remnants of the great old city plan developed by Judge Woodward a hundred and thirty-five years ago—a plan perhaps absurd functionally in its emphasis on radiating lines and polygons, but at least a plan with some system. These remnants are the one element of charm in the city of today.

Outside this center I find the same jumble extending for miles, until it finally ravel off at the edges, with shacks, ill-considered and ugly real estate developments, and plain litter, into the surrounding farmland. Factories group themselves, apparently accidentally, here and there. In it all there is scarcely anything that could be called a real neighborhood, that is, an area with some pattern of centralized culture expressed in an adequate combination of recreational, educational, and business buildings. There is a vast sense of homelessness, of characterlessness, about it. One might almost say that triumphant modern industry has, in Detroit, succeeded in housing its employees less well and certainly less beautifully than did the industrial tycoons of Lawrence, Massachusetts, or Manchester, New Hampshire, over a century ago.

Nor are the employees or the poor the only sufferers. Where can the professional man or the employer find in this amorphous mass a real home? If he lives in Detroit proper, where can he or his children go for recreation, for pleasant views, for rest from the surrounding monotony? Belle Isle Park is beautiful, with its great trees and playground and the river slipping by, but for much of Detroit it is miles away—too far for any but exceptional use. No wonder those who can afford it have gone outside, to build their homes among the ridges and valleys and lakes of Bloomfield Hills or along the shore at Grosse Pointe. In doing so they have lost touch with the city on which they live, unconscious of its problems and its possibilities.

Have I been unjust? It is not Detroit alone that I have pictured here. It is any number of industrial cities throughout our country. The results are apparent to all who read the newspapers. Intensification of race feeling, leading even to riots (was there not one here?); violence in industrial labor relationships; individual crime—these are but some of the effects of bad planning or lack of planning. For chaos breeds barbarism.

Fortunately Detroit has now a brilliant and effective City Planning Commission. The future can be bright if the Commission receives the support it deserves. Too often in America the history of City Plan Commissions has been one of almost constant struggle for existence. They are kept

to the most routine tasks, starved with insufficient appropriations, frustrated in their plans because of the lack of popular support. That has been the recent history in New York, for example, but it is true in many other places.

As architects, it seems to me that all of us must do everything we can do rally support to City Plan Commissions, and be in the forefront of the movement to educate the people in the enormous potentialities for good which such a Commission, adequately staffed and properly supported, may produce. The record of local chapters of the American Institute of Architects has not been too brilliant in this respect. Nor have individual architects, it seems to me, realized sufficiently the opportunity to assist in the great and necessary work of planning, not only by their own technical contributions, but also by their knowing, sympathetic, and disinterested support of forward-looking plans and devoted Commissions.

Not so long ago as a speaker here told you, I believe, that architects were not prepared to plan the cities of the future. I must take issue with him on almost every point. If architects are not prepared to take the leadership in planning, who is?—the engineer, the economist, the sociologist, the landscape architect? All of these have their contributions to make; but the good architect is, above all others, by training and experience, the man whose work partakes of something of the work of all these specialists. Like the engineer, he must think in structure and the possible mechanical expressions of his ideal. Like the economist, he must know something of values, of money and credit, and their ways and limitations. Like the sociologist, he must know something about the way people live and work. Like the landscape architect, he should be able to see things in terms of site, in a large way.

And the architect's contribution is especially necessary in this whole planning problem. For the architect is trained to create aesthetically at the same time he creates in material things, and the aesthetic element is, I deem it, the element in city planning which today tends most frequently to underestimate. In our reaction against the "City Beautiful" conceptions of many of the American city planning projects of 1908 to 1914, we have attempted perhaps to go too far the other way. We have come to realize that no city development is possible without a rigidly realistic framework developing into an organic and living whole. We have come to see that beauty in a city must be the result of all sorts of other planning adequacies; must flower from a consideration of traffic and transit, of decent housing, adequate water supply and sewage disposal schemes; and cannot be created out of confusion merely by waving a magic wand. We have come to see that piecemeal beautifications are often merely temporary and fall rapidly into undistinguished decay, and that no monumental civic center or great avenue can be more than an incident in the totality of effect of a great city.

All of this is of course a tremendous advance and will, I hope, prevent our plans from ever becoming the mere pretty pictures which the past produced. We know now that the old civic center conceptions were often ridiculously incongruous and impossible from any traffic point of view, and that the great plazas and radiating streets which characterized some of them would in reality have become merely additional death points in an automobile world. One cannot well notice the beauty of a building when he is trying to see six traffic signs at once or to walk across a traffic-laden 200-foot boulevard.

These things we know today; but the reaction against the dreams of the past has often gone so far as to blind the eyes even of many city planners to the extraordinary importance of beauty in any city or town. Instead of thinking in terms of vistas we think in terms of traffic lanes; yet the things seen are there, to make their unconscious impression of disorder or system, of attractiveness or disgust. We think in terms of densities of population and forget sometimes that there are slums of low density—you have them here in Detroit, as well as slums of high density—and that what makes the slum or blighted area may sometimes lie merely in this intangible quality of beauty. We destroy beauties unthinkingly to produce a modern and systematic ugliness and monotony.

That is why the architect must take a leading part in city planning, either directly as professional, or indirectly as supporter, critic, inspirer. If we let the engineers have their way, we shall get a city which works but which may be as cold and heartless and hateful and inhuman as the inside of an ant hill. Might we not say, perhaps, that the ant hill with its perfect systematization of life and work and location is the engineers' ideal of a city? If we give the economists charge of city planning, we cannot know what we shall get unless we know whether the economists in charge are more devoted to capitalistic profits or socialistic cooperation; in the one case we may get much what we have today, with perhaps a few less bankruptcies in blighted areas, and in the other we may get an unworkable utopia. In neither case do we get the average life of the average human being as the criterion by which to measure the result.

The architect, on the other hand, is, or should be, trained from the beginning to think of buildings in terms of people. His is, in the highest sense, a profession even more humanistic than that of the doctor, for he must think of people well as well as of people sick. The architect realizes that man does not live by bread alone, or by transit systems or six-lane highways, or by sanitary sewage plants. The architect knows that man likes convenience, but likes pleasant things to look at too. He knows that a man needs variety in his life, and needs sometimes that kind of combined bigness and beauty in experience which shall lift him out of his individual limitations if only for a moment, and give him some intuition of a larger cosmos.

What is it that makes people love a town? What makes us, when we travel, seek out Salem or Nantucket, or Florence or Paris? Isn't it because in those places we find harmony, a consistent patterning, a series of beautifully related shapes and colors, which somehow inspire us with values greater than that of their mere bricks and wood and stone? And I am not pharisaical enough to feel that this sensitiveness to beauty, this innate love of the patterned and the serene, is limited to any class or any income group. I believe it is as wide as humanity, where it has not been killed by starvation or deadened by lack of use, or cheapened and vitiated by the false stimulus of cheap advertising and cheap entertainment.

Certainly our forefathers, when they settled these fertile western fields, felt and realized that need and had that sensitiveness. The greens, commons, or squares of numberless Ohio villages, the quiet, well-designed houses, the dignified courthouses, the white churches of myriad towns, as far west as the Mississippi, show the ideal these people had. They built themselves houses they and their children could love, situated in towns which at the beginning were harmonious, planned—and consciously planned—to give the sense of a real community. They built academies and colleges to feed their minds, just as they plowed their fields to feed their bodies. They were whole people, and they realized that a whole people demands beauty. They loved their communities—loved them because they were beautiful, and beautified them because they loved them—and out of that love and respect was born the political democracy of this country.

I submit that, until we can today produce towns and communities as lovely, as inspiring, as harmonious and serene as those, much of our talk about progress becomes meaningless. And the city planner who plans without regard, or with but passing regard, for the beauty which will result from his plans is denying the future a part of its birthright.

For the city or town exists not for itself but for the individuals who live in it. It must not be *A* town but *THEIR* town. It must be in human scale, however large; it must be designed so that any individual can find within easy distance all that he needs (recreation, business, education, residence); and it must all be designed so that serenity and graciousness are as much a part of it as the pipes under its streets. It must be a town humanized, with trees and green a common incident along its streets. It must be a town so integrated and so organic as to prevent piecemeal, fly-by-night, jerry-built, speculative construction. It must be a town that people will love as well as tolerate—and that means children and old people as well as the energetic workers in the prime of life.

Surely this much we are entitled to ask, when we consider the wealth of material and labor our post-war work will command, and the enormous means for realization of our desires which scientific and industrial techniques, if properly directed, make possible.

I think this whole matter is a challenge to all architects, and a test of the depth of their professionalism. If doctors had remained content for generations in the past with the mere high-priced care of wealthy patients, the medical profession would be a long way from where it is today. If all lawyers had spent their time in the unmitigated service of the wealthiest people, statesmanship would have died out in America more completely than it has. If architecture is a profession, it seems to me an integral part of this conception that the architect as a professional man must be as much interested in the community at large as he is in the pursuit or execution of his own private jobs. And if he is thus devoted, if the profession exists to guard and assist the community as a whole over the entire field of building construction, then of course planning and housing must become today the profession's almost primary interest.

How can the architect make this interest effective? For the architects fortunate enough to have the inspiring opportunities that a direct connection with city planning or the design of large-scale housing brings, the problem is merely one of bringing to their jobs the skill and the devotion their importance suggests. But most architects are not in this class. Yet to lose their influence would be disastrous. First of all, they must learn to know their communities. They must know what the problems are, what the possibilities are. They must be able to lead and direct public opinion in the criticism of matters of city-planning, zoning, and housing import brought before public hearings. They should be happy, if opportunity offers, to become members of local planning commissions. They can take the lead in community improvement associations and similar societies. Above all, they must make themselves the educators of the public.

The great stumbling block of the planning movement today is not lack of technical knowledge or idealism on the part of the planners; it is the fact that they command so little public support. There is such a pitifully small number of people passionately interested in the problem—a few city planners, some architects, many doctors, a few engineers and economists who have not been bought, a few technicians, some rabbis and clergymen, a small group of devoted politicians. Against them there stand ranged much tremendous power of organized wealth, all the organizations of those to whom profits are more important than people, and—above all—all the inertia of parroting minds who judge ignorantly or carelessly.

The only hope of a really creative planning movement lies in a change in this picture—lies in building up behind the efforts of the planners such a wide knowledge of what planning has done and can do that the demand for intelligent, imaginative, and human planning will become irresistible. To start an education of the masses is a task for which the architectural profession is particularly suited. It can and must, through lectures and talks, through association meetings and committee work, through the schools and colleges, spread abroad among the people as a whole the knowledge of what planning—intelligent planning, human planning—can do for them; how it can affect their homes, their work places, the pleasantness and richness of their entire life. And the architects are also in a particularly good position to start the education of the great investing bodies whose money will go into the new structures of post-war America—the life insurance companies, the savings banks, the building-and-loan and mortgage associations.

Many architects have close contacts with such bodies already, and no greater stroke for realistic and at the same time human planning can be made than the conversion to it of these great and naturally for the most part reactionary forces. As someone said, they only know that they cannot be criticized for doing nothing—and especially nothing new. They must be shown a fact which is a commonplace to all of us, that the majority of our cities and great sections of our rural areas are in possession of a business which no

longer pays dividends, because its obsolete machinery can no longer meet the demands imposed upon it. Such communities *must* plan, *must* spend, *must* modernize themselves or die. Blighted city areas, deserted farms, increasing farm tenancy on a basis of submarginal living—these all are signs which even a bank president should be able to read. And the reading of these signs right will bring a revolution in investment, will bring from the investing bodies themselves an overwhelming demand for intelligent planning.

And there are other things that architects can do. They must decide—and it is a difficult decision—whether they are professional servants of the whole community, or more technical assistants to profit-making wealth. They must realize that as architects, in designing buildings or groups, they are frequently the only people who stand between those who will live in or use the buildings and unmerciful exploitation by greedy owners. They must realize that, if they wish to vindicate the position of architecture as a profession in post-war America, they must do it on the only possible true professional basis—service to the community as a whole.

As a final message to my fellow architects of Detroit, I can do no better than to repeat to you part of the futile protest Judge Woodward made, in 1818, when his city plan was threatened by the proposed sale of certain public lands. The style is antique, the high-flown verbiage of a past that has gone. But the sentiments are still true—perhaps truer now than ever before:

"Nature has destined the city of Detroit to be a great interior emporium, equal, if not superior, to any other on the surface of the terraqueous globe. The commerce of seven immense Mediterraneans—Ontario, Erie, Huron, Michigan, Superior, Cuinissique, Arabasca—connected by noble rivers to the Atlantic Ocean at two points, New York and Quebec, and stretching on the other side to the Pacific and even to the Hyperborean ocean, must glide along its borders. In such a case the art of man should aid the benevolence of the Creator, and no restricted attachment to the present day or to present interests, should induce a permanent sacrifice of ulterior and brilliant prospects."

#### Bulletin:

Much has been written and spoken about the demands of the new methods of building construction to develop and perfect a new art in Architecture to meet the exigencies of steel and concrete. Three men of great and deserved prominence in the field of the Arts, Royal Cortissoz, Homer St. Gaudens, and Charles Maginnis, have pointed out with clear insight and much humor, that little is to be said, as yet at least, for the beauty of even the best of the new departures in architectural design, and they suggest that we look once more at the work of McKim, of Hastings, of Gilbert, and of White, and see if the work of these men and the great group trained by them does not still command our admiration, our respect, and our humble appreciation.

Now, as far as construction based on steel and concrete goes, there is no new problem of design involved. The basic fact which governs the designer is that the materials of his construction are in themselves unsightly and therefore are to be covered. The covering is decorative, not constructive. Now this is exactly the problem that faced the designer of S. Sophia or St. Mark's. The common brick structure was unsightly, and it was therefore veneered with beautiful marble and with mosaic both of marble and of glass. Here was a precedent set for our modern architect a thousand years ago. None, I venture to say, has profited by it. Some have veneered their steel frames with actual building materials, stone or brick, so that the structure is really a masquerade, a pretense. Others have used true veneer materials, metal or glass, but with little or no success in attaining beauty.

Once we are convinced that our building and construction presents no new problems and that we can still study to advantage what has been done in the past, we are more likely to produce something of permanent artistic value.

R. Clipston Sturgis.

## Construction Goes To War

The Associated General Contractors of America are sponsoring a series of radio programs covering this subject. The first of this series will be given over WJR at 10:45 p.m., Saturday, November 28.

"Acquatic" homes, presumably for aquatic sports, are suggested by a Washington architect, who gets the idea from living in one himself. He believes that "the old flotilla" would do much to solve the land problem, and afford low-cost, attractive dwellings to a host of families.

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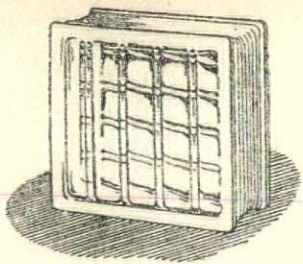
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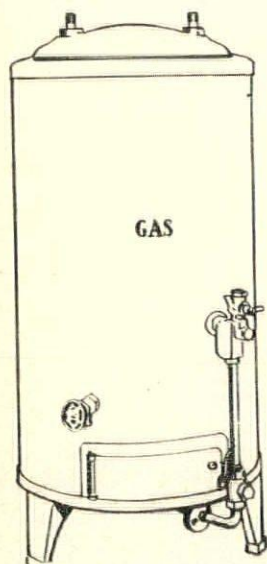
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